DRINKING, DRIVING EXPERIMENT HELD AT E. C. GLASS H. S.

The Central Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program in cooperation with the VASAP Special Enforcement Unit of the Lynchburg Police Department, Mr. Carl F. Finn, Driver Education Specialist and the E. C. Glass High School Driver Education Department conducted a controlled drinking and driving demonstration on Thurs., Feb. 23, 1978 at E. C. Glass High School, Lynchburg, Va. The purpose of this demonstration was to show that at blood alcohol levels of .08% and greater an individual's ability would be severely impaired to operate a motor vehicle.

The experiment was done was the Link Driving Simulators used by the high school to teach Driver Education. The Simulators included a complete Plymouth dashboard, automatic or manual transmission and foot pedals for acceleration, clutch and brakes. Measurements would be made and scored according to errors in braking, steering, signals, lights and speeding. Errors would be scored by three members of the Lynchburg Police Department. Blood alcohol concentrations (BAC) would be measured by a breathalyzer operated by two certified operators and the total experiment would be supervised by Mr. Carl F. Finn, Driver Education Specialist, Lynchburg Public Schools.

There were eight participants ranging in age from 22 to 36 years of age. In order to familiarize each participant with the Link's Drinking Simulator a practice session was held prior to the actual counting of errors. Once the practice session was concluded each participant operated the Simulator sober with errors being recorded by the police officers. After driving the Simulators sober the participants were given equal amount of donated alcohol according to body weight in order to achieve a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08% or higher. Six of the eight participants were measured on a breathalyzer of having a BAC higher than .08%.

The third phase of the experiment consisted of the participants again taking the Link's Driving Simulator Test. This time, of course, each one measured some degree of intoxication according to the breathalyzer. Consequently, conclusive results were obtained from a comparison of driving errors prior to drinking alcohol and driving errors after the consumption of an alcoholic beverage.

It is interesting to note that all the participants with a BAC of .08% or higher had a significant "degree of impairment". This ranged from 4% to 71%. The range is understandable due to the factors of: 1.) Individuals sober driving ability. 2.) Level of alcohol tolerance. The average impairment was 27.5% and another significant factor pointed out in the results indicated that steering errors increased 130% after alcohol consumption.

IN conclusion, this experiment conducted at E. C. Glass High School on Feb. 23, 1978 clearly indicates that someone "under the influence of alcohol" at .08% BAC or greater is definitely a highway hazard.

HIGHWAY SAFETY QUIZ

? Is it illegal to make U-turns at intersections where no sign prohibits it?

A When driving in business districts, cities or towns U-turns are allowed at intersections. According to the Code of Virginia drivers are permitted to make U-turns except upon a curve, near the crest of a hill, or anywhere a driver's vision of other vehicles is blocked more than 500 feet.

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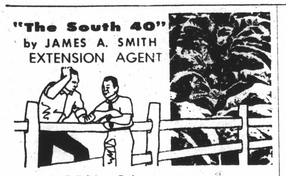

The Junior Bull Sale at Red House sold 29 bulls for $22,570, averaging $778, and 33 heifers for $19,405, an average of $588.

Fourteen polled hereford bulls averaged $787, with a top price of $1800. Ten Angus averaged $680 and a top price of $1025. The top selling Simmental was $1350 - the four averaged $961. Only one Charolais was offered and he brought $900.

This was the first performance tested sale in Virginia to offer heifers. These cattle had been on test for 120 days and had gained about 1 1/4 pounds a day. The nineteen polled Hereford Heifers averaged $687, with the top female bringing $2000. Fourteen Angus heifers averaged $453, with a high of $675.

Harry Ranson and Carlton Harris purchased Polled Hereford Bulls and Bill Williamson was the successful bidder on a heifer.

At the Senior Bull Sale a month ago, Jack Caldwell and O. W. Martin, Jr. purchased Angus bulls.

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The Office of Management & Budget has announced some proposed initiatives and reductions for the USDA to undertake in their Agricultural Research Service. Tobacco growers will be interested in the proposal to redirect to new research areas approximately $5 million of crop production studies, including **all on-going tobacco production studies.** USDA has been directed to take steps to carry out these proposals for fiscal year 1979. If carried through -- seven research facilities would be closed in fiscal year 1979.

***

Small grains need to be top dressed just as soon as you can get on the land. For most soils in this county, small grains should get a total of 70 pounds of nitrogen. If 500 pounds 5-10-10 were used last fall at seeding -- this would be 25 pounds of nitrogen; therefore, another 45 pounds of **actual** nitrogen should go on now.

***

There are trickle irrigation systems on sale for home gardeners. Select one that has effective pressure regulator emitters, time clock and solenoid. The last two features permit automation.

***

There are eleven persons who have indicated a need to complete the certification requirements to purchase and apply restricted pesticides. The course will be offered the evenings of March 13 and 16, 7:30 p.m., at this office.

***

Interested in purchasing apple trees for spring planting? Don't ask for a Red Delicious because there are over 80 strains of Red Delicious on the market. When ordering be specific -- order only 1 year-old whips.

There are several new varieties that are worth considering: Quinte - this ia a Canadian apple that ripens in early July - good for apple sauce. Paula Red - July ripener, has MacIntosh flavor - good quality. Jersey Mac -ripens after Paula Red. Miller Sturdis Spurr - this is a sport of Starkling, a strain of Red Delicious. Virginia Gold - this is a cross of Albermarle Pippen and Golden Delicious - ripens at Blacksburg about October 8.

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS
Fix It Yourself For Safety & Economy

BE YOUR OWN ELECTRICIAN

It's important to know how the electricity in your home is distributed before you can make a decision about calling in an electrician.

In most cases, power from the local utility is supplied to your house through an entrance panel (either a fuse box or circuit breaker panel). From there it is distributed around the house in branch circuits.

BRANCH CIRCUITS — When an appliance does not operate, check for power at the wall outlet.

Most homes have 120/240 volt service. This means that branch circuits at either voltage can be provided. But electricity in your home may not be exactly 120 and 240 volts because outlets at the far end of a branch circuit have lower voltages than those near the entrance panel. It's important to note, however, that if the difference in your home is more than four volts, your home wiring may be defective.

A good do-it-yourself manual, such as the one compiled by the editors at Reader's Digest, will give you diagrams of electrical wiring in a typical house. This "Fix-It-Yourself Manual," also shows you how to fix 1,001 things that can go wrong around the house in clear, easy-to-follow language. You'll have the personal satisfaction of doing a job well yourself, and save a repair charge as well.

CANCER Answer line
American Cancer Society

A regular feature, prepared by the American Cancer Society, to help save your life from cancer.

A woman writes: "I am 55 and my daughter is 30. We are both worried about getting breast cancer. Should we have mammography?"

ANSWERline: Before answering that question, it is important to point out that both of you should learn and practice monthly breast self-examination to help detect possible breast cancer. It will give you both the peace of mind that comes from knowing you are doing something to help. Your questions about mammography should be directed to your personal physician, who best knows your physical conditions and medical histories. However, in general, women over 50 should have x-rays (mammograms) of their breasts, because they are entering the age group where breast cancer is a greater risk. And, any woman of *any* age who notices breast changes should seek an expert opinion and diagnostic techniques which may include mammography. Unless your 30-year-old daughter has suspicious symptoms, she need not have routine mammography. If you want more information, please speak with your physician or the local American Cancer Society Unit in your community.

An engineering student asks: "Have we made any recent large scale progress in the cancer fight?"

ANSWERline: It takes time for improvements in early diagnosis and treatment to show up in survival rates for cancer patients because several years must pass after cancer is treated to estimate survival. The most recent assessment came from the National Cancer Institute based on a comprehensive survey of the 1950-1973 period. This survey showed that survival rates for six of the 10 most common forms of cancer in the U.S. have improved gradually since the early 1960's. Better survival rates were noted for patients with cancers of the bladder, colon, prostate, rectum and lining of the uterus. For the overall relative survival rate for all types of cancer increased slightly from 30 per cent in 1950-59 to 41 per cent for 1967-73. Complete five-year follow-up is not yet available for cancers diagnosed after 1970. This information well may prove important. Please remember that these rates are averages for large groups of patients and do *not* apply to an individual patient's chance of survival.

A suburbanite explains: "My aunt will be staying with me after cancer surgery. How can I get a hospital bed for her?"

ANSWERline: If your aunt requires this kind of equipment, please check with your local American Cancer Society Unit, which maintains a "loan closet" of sickroom supplies and equipment available at no cost to you.

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